

CAMBERWELL HOCKEY CLUB

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

The last truly uninhibited event this year for me was my 60th Birthday celebration at Sorrento over the long weekend in March. Surrounded by family and friends, a big house, great food and wine, just taking it all for granted.

Coronavirus had hold in China and Europe. Concern was growing in Australia, but we had no idea what was about to happen and how it would impact us all, especially in Victoria.

As the global pandemic grew in severity and our local and national leaders started to respond, we were forced to change. It did not occur to me that the most prized possession would be toilet paper. I always thought the family photos were the first thing to grab in a crisis.

Our vocabularies were extended as we came to understand terms like "social distancing", "lockdown" and "self isolating".

People began to die and it became real. The next phase got everyone's head in the game as we came to understand that Australia's approach to protect life and fight back involved removing our natural freedoms. We had to change even more and life became restrictive. Not everyone was coping, many businesses were smashed and Governments could only throw money at the problem, lots of it.

Most towed the line issued by Government, but some did not. Work and social life involved the new phenomenon "Zoom" and "Zoom parties" and it was trendy for about 5 minutes. AFL players went to live in "Bubbles" that were located anywhere but Victoria.

Coronavirus became known as COVID-19, a far more clinical term and "flattening the curve" became the new aim. New events such as "clusters" led to "pivoting". Mass working from home became the "new normal" overnight. This was a game changer as "home schooling" once the domain of the few, was also a "new normal". Working and schooling from home were two events that most thought could not be possible, but were happening and mainly succeeding in a way few believed they could 12 months earlier.

The broader community were largely successful and we were given back some of our "pleasures". Family gatherings and sporting activities overlaid with "COVID 19 Protocols", another new addition to the expanding vocab. This was great as we emerged from the lockdown. Job done, we thought, but COVID-19

found a way through the cracks and came back harder for the "second wave".

A second lockdown compounded the already strained community. Some were adapting, others not and more money was thrown at the problem. Lockdown V2, was hard and long. "face masks" were mandatory and possibly will be for a long time to come. "Contact tracing" and "New daily cases" were the focus, deaths grew, as did discontent. The community, however, largely pulled together and the curve is flattening again.

We are not yet out of this in Victoria and the ripples continue to impact on the other states. Life has changed and may never be exactly the same. A vaccine seems the only possible end to this.

Yes, the Camberwell Hockey Club, along with the rest of Victoria lost the 2020 winter hockey season in the swamp of COVID-19. We are all very disappointed. So many lost so much more.

Simon Winter President











"from the ashes of disaster come the roses of success"

My grandfather worked in picture theatres for 48 years and managed a cinema off Adelaide's Rundle Mall. It was a place I, along with my brothers and sisters loved to go. Mum would drop us there when she went shopping in town. Pop would sneak us into a movie for a few hours. I saw some movies dozens of times; Sound of Music, Mary Poppins and Chitty Chitty Bang Bang were the standouts. Where am I going you might ask? One of my favourite scenes and songs in the classic movie "Chitty, Chitty, Bang, Bang" was "The Roses of Success".

When Robert B Sherman wrote the song "The Roses of Success" in 1968 he was probably not thinking of a global pandemic impacting the Camberwell Hockey Club and how the Club community would respond. "from the ashes of disaster come the roses of success", he wrote.

The point is, in the case of the Camberwell Hockey Club in 2020 from the "ashes of disaster" came such a raft of new and engaging activities, projects and communications, that Camberwell Hockey Club's 2020 Season off the field has been nothing but a success.

Having a strong, active club leading into the pandemic was a solid base from which to launch. The Comms Group were organised and preparing for the season ahead, but they had to "pivot".

This group took the lead and bought us an astounding array of communications: Flashback Friday's, Instagram challenges, Profiles and the amazing Podcast series that gave listeners insights into local, national and international personalities from sport and professions. Club grade players, juniors and elite sportsmen and women all made contributions. Hosted by Club members these podcasts were a weekly instalment being looked forward to almost as much as the courier arriving with the latest online order.

A Year Like No Other Continued...

The emergence of online exercise was also a feature of our communications with both Pilates and strengthening available regularly for all to join. The very competitive Strava group were also setting standards of dedication to staying very fit.

Diversity and Inclusion activities of the club were split into 3 groups to better focus on each important area. Cultural Inclusion, Gender Inclusion and Mental Health engagement groups were established. All three groups have a different focus and strong numbers to strengthen our activities to "engage and embrace" all members of the club and community, educate and recognise where we can become a more accessible and inclusive club.

The emergence of the Mental Health First Aid Group was a highlight. Following a MHFA Workshop in March, this committee have prepared a service for all members. It is directed at providing initial assistance for anyone experiencing issues or anyone concerned about others dealing with mental health. This has been a wonderful initiative, led by a dedicated committee.

A key program delivered by the MHFA Group was the Mental Health Webinars from Dr. Michael Carr-Gregg. Michael is a noted psychologist in Australia and has become a good friend of the Camberwell Hockey Club.

Our new Pride Group will focus on education, gender diversity activities and will also organise club days such as Pride Cup, Women's & Girls and Men's Mental Health rounds.

A Community Inclusion group have started to recognise and discuss the impact of the changing cultural background of the Boroondara community and how the club can become more accessible. It is important to ensure Hockey and the Camberwell Hockey Club stay relevant in the changing environment.

Activities have also been undertaken to stay in touch with our close neighbours offering support during this unprecedented time. These activities, including delivering flowers and cards, made by our junior players have further strengthened relations and wonderful feedback has been received.



The new Camberwell Hockey Club CONNECT is being launched. An initiative that will introduce members and their families to the business networks and opportunities to "shop local" and support other members in business. It also promises to be a place to advertise for new employees and post your availability for work. If we are aware of our hockey communities businesses, graduates and job opportunities, we can support each other. This will build deeper relationships, make the club a great place to be and will benefit us all.

The club received ongoing sponsorship this year from 40Forty Finance, Candor Group, Echo Cartons and A&A Tax despite there being no games. We are truly grateful for this support from these wonderful sponsors and members of our club.

The board and section committees have not stopped meeting and planning. Diligent financial management has been central to discussions. Finalising capital works, postponing non essential expenditure, disposing of stock and protecting the clubs strong position going into lockdown, to emerge with a sound position going into next season.

The best example of the board, section committee's and administration mobilising was the response to the "socially distanced" training under COVID-19 Protocols in May. Preparation of reports for Council and HV, ground preparations, duty managers, rosters for players, coaches planning, team leadership and the strong adherence to discipline showed by players gave us 6 weeks of activity. We came close to starting a season, but alas, fell 1 week short.

I do thank the board and section committees and Narelle Richardson for a remarkable effort and determination in pushing the club forward so positively. So much time planning for possibilities, few of which we were able to force past COVID-19.

Last year Camberwell Hockey Club played 731 games, this year we played 8 by the only Camberwell team to take the field in 2020. The Men's Masters 60+ team won 7 of their 8 games before the competition was suspended. They were awarded the flag in a disappointing finish to that competition.

The Masters Monday Night Summer competition was also suspended with only finals night to play. This amazing competition continues to thrive and bring 30yo+ men and women together in a social/competitive format that has stood the test of time.

This competition was CHC's nomination for the Innovative Club of the Year in the Boroondara Sporting Awards 2020. We are very honoured to have won this award, but increasingly grateful for the work done by the masters committee in keeping this event alive and growing at the club.

The Club was also a finalist in the Young Sports Person category, with Eliza Roxbrough Judd and Inclusive Club through our Pride Cup round in 2019. Both Eliza and the organisers of Pride Round (Sophie Sheehan and Edward Unkles) are congratulated on being finalists.

While so much was being done within the walls of the Camberwell Hockey Club, we must acknowledge the very good work done by Andrew Skillern, Sash Herceg and their great team at HV. HV never gave up trying to keep us on the pitch. We also farewelled the long serving chair, Robert Dalton from HV, as he moved to Sport Australia. Rob was a wonderful leader of hockey in our state for 10 years. Also a Camberwell Hockey Club player in the 80's we wish him well.

Our ambitious plans to erect a new digital scoreboard continue to be thwarted, but we are examining the Council's administrative requirements and researching other ways to bring state of the art technology to Camberwell to enhance the players, spectators and coaches experience of games at Matlock. This is a challenge that we will rise above and deliver on.

We sadly had to quietly farewell Peter Collins with his unexpected passing. Our long-time player and life member made a huge contribution to the club for many decades. PC will be missed by many and we plan to celebrate his contribution when different circumstances allow. We look forward to welcoming his widow, Jill, daughter Rebecca and son, Shane, to the club, when we can.

Colin Wansbrough, our club patron and patriarch of one of our big club families, was honoured with Life Membership of Hockey Australia. We all share a great sense of admiration for his lifetime contribution to our game.

I would like to single out John Unkles for a special thank you. John, as secretary, is a tireless worker and administrator. He likes to do his work in the background, but so often supports projects across the club. He has cultivated great relationships with Council and our neighbours and provides me with salient advice and support. This year without John's efforts would have been much harder. Thank you, John.

Lastly, looking ahead, when the truly amazing Men's thirds (Pennant A) are back winning premierships, we will know hockey has returned to normal. This team featured as one of a number of historical looks at the club this year. Numbering nearly 100 premiership players in 14 flags since 2006, this iconic Camberwell team will continue reminding us just how important a community based hockey club is.

I think it is safe to say that the Camberwell Hockey Club has been busy. We did not fold, we did not stay quiet, we "embraced and engaged" with our members. We did this with the contributions of hundreds of members and families who refused to allow this pandemic to separate us. Socially distanced, maybe, but not out of touch. I have not listed each person on every activity above, but I am very grateful for each contribution.

Please read more on each item mentioned as you go through the Annual Report.

It was my pleasure to lead our club during "a year like no other" and I have great pride in presenting our 2019-2020 Annual Report.

"from the ashes of disaster come the roses of success"

Simon Winter *President*

Camberwell Hockey Club 6 89th Annual Report 2019-2020

AS WE ARE ON BE

MEMBER ENGAGEMENT AT THE CAMBERWELL HOCKEY CLUB

Hockey clubs play hockey, football clubs play football, as it is with darts clubs, pony clubs and the like. The primary focus for a sporting or recreation club is to participate in the activity of choice.

A club, however, is so much more than a single focus pursuit. As a community-based volunteer organisation that gathers to play hockey, we also gather families, children, students, friendship groups, business leaders, mum's, dad's, singles, couples, club players, elite players and we just keep gathering. All are welcome. All are coming together for the initial reason of playing and supporting each other in the activity of hockey.

The Camberwell Hockey Club is far more than "Game Day" and a building. The relationships that develop go way beyond both. Lifelong friendships, winning, losing, growing, learning, supporting and caring all happen at the club. The young meet the old and meet each other, it is more than a game.

This year we have focussed on who we are and how we relate to and support each other. There was no sitting around waiting for COVID-19 to pass.

We have developed a new focus on engagement with members, families and those more broadly in the community. The Community Inclusion, Mental Health First Aid, Pride and CONNECT groups have been formed to expand our inclusiveness, inform, educate, lend support and bring our community closer together across a range of activities and areas of life.

The following reports outline what these groups do and how they are contributing positively to life off the field at the Camberwell Hockey Club.

MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID GROUP

Each year, one in five Australians experiences a mental illness. Sport and in our case, hockey, plays a central role in Australian culture which is reflected in the number of people enrolled to play. Participation in sport can have direct benefits for physical, social and emotional wellbeing. Camberwell Hockey Club (CHC) is a social club and creates connections between members both on and off the field. Owing to a tragedy in 2019 when one of our young members died suddenly we made a decision to focus on mental health. The loss of club members further highlighted to our club that "whilst we play hockey at Camberwell for the love of the sport, it's the people you meet and get to know that ultimately matter the most" -Hamish Ridland.

CHC, as a community-based club, continues to have a strong commitment to positive mental health. In 2020, the club was proactive in upskilling members with Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) training. We invited interested members to enroll in the CHC initiated MHFA course with the Board subsidising a number of places. The list of interested club members was filled, and the course was offered in BC times. 'Before Coronavirus', that is.

We were fortunate enough to have Dr Michael Carr-Gregg run the training. The training was one of the last events to be held in the CHC clubrooms for 2020 on a gorgeous sunny weekend with a view and the sound of practice matches running on the pitch. The group had no idea how difficult things were going to get for themselves, friends, family and the entire world in the months following. The launch of the MHFA initiative amongst a global pandemic was significant. Whilst the pandemic response varies for everyone, we



Michael Carr-Gregg



Mental Health First Aid Course at Matlock

share the loss of routines, connectedness and networks at CHC. The pandemic has heightened mental health issues across the community as a whole.

Currently 25 CHC members are trained in MHFA support. They all have insight into what to look for and ways around initiating a conversation. The role as a MHFA person isn't to know all the answers and to solve all the problems but to be the first responder who will listen and guide people. The ultimate aim is to foster a culture where people ask for help when they need it.

The course offered prompts to start a conversation with someone who might be experiencing mental health concerns. The MHFA person's hunch might be wrong and the club member is not at risk; which might just mean the MHFA person is a little embarrassed. However, that conversation could help save someone's life and convey the culture of care at CHC; caring about all elements of the member's health.

The ALGEE acronym prompt, outlined below, supports everyone to know how the MHFA person will offer support.

Approach the person, assess and assist with any crisis

Listen and communicate non-judgmentally

Give support and information

Encourage the person to get appropriate professional help

Encourage other supports

Following the training, a MHFA working group was formed. The immediate aim was to engage positive interactions, build social connections and continue to grow a sense of belonging within the club. The working group continues to partner with Dr Michael Carr-Gregg. Michael generously offers his wisdom, provocations and inspiration as the working group's projects develop and unfold.

The working group is vibrant, energetic and have been meeting fortnightly since mid-May. Some of the tangible results of the working group in 2020 include:

- Articulating and documenting a CHC MHFA vision, goals and who we are
- Creating CHC MHFA specific discussion flowchart and prompts
- Make alignments of the MHFA purpose and responses with current CHC policies and practices
- Facilitating an Orygen audit of current Mental Health promoting actions at CHC
- Designing and creating CHC posters to promote mental health care
- Research into other clubs, schools or organisations mental health models and actions
- Hosting two webinars with Dr. Michael Carr-Gregg
- Developing a long list of possible projects to introduce in the future
- Organising messages and flowers from young club members to our club neighbours
- Distributing care packages to our

- CHC secondary school leavers (VCE and VCAL)
- Involvement in CHC podcasts
- Grant submission for Mental Health prevention and early intervention service
- Providing articles and links in CHC social media and newsletters
- Launching the social media initiative of Wellness Wednesday.

Whilst 2020 has kept us busy, the working group are forward planning for 2021. In the near future there will be a page at the CHC website where available MHFA people and resources will be visible and accessible. The working group plans to be informed by and to partner with other CHC working groups such as the Pride Group Committee, the Comms Committee and the Community Inclusion Group.

We look forward to further fostering a culture where mental health and associated conversations are treated as equally important as physical health. Thank you to the Board for supporting the group and the initiatives. And thank you to our vibrant MHFA working group who have amazing ideas and commitment to the mental health of our members and community.

You can contact us at: mhfa@camberwellhockeyclub.com.au

Liz Grant MHFA Lead



COMMUNITY INCLUSION GROUP (CIG)

Camberwell Hockey Club is a large and successful sporting club with a shared focus to provide a safe, welcoming, and accessible hockey experience for all members.

We acknowledge that our sense of community, support and inclusiveness has been a key factor driving our success. We are proud that our club is "a community club for all ages, genders and abilities". However, we need to consider inclusion even more broadly to ensure we remain as accessible and relevant as a sport and a club in our community now and in the future.

Earlier this year we invited a group of students from the Deakin Freelancing Hub to study our club through the lens of cultural diversity, noting the changing cultural profile of Boroondara and the school population catchments from which we have attracted many of our players.

As our community profile changes, we have a new challenge to reflect that changing cultural diversity within our membership. We need to consider and explore ways to attract and engage more players and members within our changing community.

A small group of our members with a long history and knowledge of our club is now examining the results of the Deakin study. The group has been established

with the purpose to assist CHC to be an accessible and culturally inclusive club, in the context of greater cultural diversity in our community.

The Community Inclusion Group (CIG) is led by Ed D'Cruz, and includes Jack Blayney, Helen Chauhan, Rosemary Kelly, and Paul Linossier. Between them they have held roles within the club of players and parents, committee and board members and their professional and life experiences will be most valuable to our club in this work.

They will consider the issues surrounding the accessibility and relevance of our game and club, and further explore our membership and our recruiting and retention strategies through a cultural diversity lens.

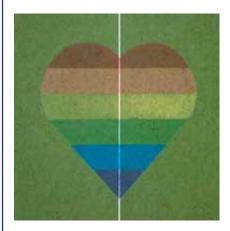
Their aim is to provide strategies and actions for our club to reach out and engage with our community and local schools to build on our achievements and invest in our club's sustained success.

We invite any members who have ideas or suggestions for the group or connections within our community that could be helpful, to contact Ed D'Cruz on 0417 317 564 or email clubadmin@camberwellhockeyclub. com.au

Ed D'Cruz

CIG Lead

PRIDE GROUP



In 2020, following on from the fantastic work that Sophie Sheehan and Ed Unkles have done over the previous years, Camberwell introduced a new sub-committee called PRIDE, the Pride committees key focus will be around awareness, support and inclusion for LGBTIQA+ people. As the club develops specific arms of inclusion the new Pride committee can work on growing the relations between CHC and the broader LGBTIQA+ community and ensure that we provide a safe space to everyone. The inaugural formation of this committee is currently made up of the following members, Stacy Clarke, Sam Daly, Tom Winter and Julia Paterson.

The acronym LGBTIQA+ refers to Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Transgender, Intersex, Queer, Agender and other gender or



Communication has been a key to living in a Covid world in 2020. Whilst it has been difficult it has also given us the opportunity to think about ways we can bring the Camberwell Hockey Club community even closer together.

Welcome to Camberwell Hockey Club CONNECT.

Camberwell Hockey Club CONNECT is a platform that allows both businesses and job seekers to find opportunities.

As the name suggests, CONNECT is all about connecting our community to help each other find jobs and promote businesses.

The platform allows businesses to advertise, seek employees and employees to actively look for work, apply for jobs listed or promote themselves and let work

find them. It is easy to use and navigate. To connect all our members and non-members, to promote community activity and help small businesses to grow, are the aims. To help our younger generation find job opportunities whether that may be internships, postgraduate jobs or part time jobs such as tutoring or babysitting. The job opportunities can range from accountants to electricians to dog walkers; there is something for everyone.

A business listing has is an annual payment of \$100 +GST. Business can advertise, promote, and recruit using CONNECT. It is free to use if looking for work or posting a job.

CONNECT at all levels, from juniors right through to masters. We can expand beyond Camberwell in time through the community of hockey, family and friends. It's a way to support as a club, encourage small businesses to continue to strive for greatness, as well as supporting our graduating students

into the workforce. Proceeds are to be used to develop our grass roots program, hookin2hockey, as well as funding our many other community initiatives.

CONNECT arose from a project with Deakin University Freelancing Hub, who listened to our needs and bought Camberwell Hockey Club CONNECT to life.

The Camberwell Hockey Club CONNECT team of Issy Harris, Krissy Bates, Hamish Prior and Andrew Neideck have worked to deliver this landmark community engagement program for the benefit of all members and their families. The club also thanks Tony Coombes for the wonderful graphic work. They are all to be congratulated.

We ask businesses to get connected, members seeking opportunities to list and everyone to CONNECT with our local community.

Start your next search for goods and or services on Camberwell Hockey Club CONNECT.

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sexual diverse identified individuals, whilst often referred to as one group it covers two vastly different areas that are not intrinsically linked together. The 'LGB' portion refers to one's sexual attraction, i.e. the 'gender' of whom one may be attracted to, whilst the 'TIQA+' portion refers to the gender identity an individual self identifies themselves as, irrespective of the gender assigned to them at birth. We also acknowledge that the LGBTIQA+ acronym does not include all the variations around one's sexuality or gender identity, however this is generally considered the all accompanying umbrella term.

During 2020, even without the regular Winter competition, the Club was represented at various events held by Pride Cup Org around Melbourne across different sporting codes through Stacy Clarke as an ambassador of Pride Cup, representing and discussing the pride space initiatives within our Club. Our amazing aerial image of the Club's 2019 post PLM Pride Cup round game of the love heart on our pitch is continually being used in various promotional material items outside of CHC. Additionally, the Club was involved in Hockey Victoria's 6-a-side LGBTIQA+ 'Stand Out Cup' held at Essendon during March and since the formation of the committee we started tapping into social media for the important Wear It Purple Day in August that focuses on LGBTIQ+ awareness for young people.

Looking forward, there will be a number of focusses that this group will take pride in undertakes during 2021 and beyond, these will range from expanding the Clubs activities for Hockey Victoria's Pride Cup Round as well as other specific rounds such as Mens Health and Women and Girls round. We will also be working towards increasing the awareness, support and educational material or events around LGBTIQA+ safe spaces as well as developing relationships with community groups. These 'safe spaces' also include how as a Club can we provide safe official or player change room and or toilet spaces for all.



Our Club has a proud history of being a community club for all ages, gender and abilities and whilst we have a proud history of supporting inclusivity within our club and the wider community, these are often focussed around 3 key events each year targeting the over 18 age groups and predominately focussed on premier league match based events. We wish to work more closely with each section of the club, including the Juniors to provide age specific support, awareness and activities over the coming years for all levels within the Club. Also, we aim to work with the Club's new Metal Health committee to tie in with their programs or support avenues as the two areas often go hand-in-hand.

This committee is truly striving to make the Camberwell Hockey Club a safe and inclusive space both on the field and off the field for all members of the community. The Camberwell Hockey Club accepts and welcomes everyone as they are!

Stacey Clarke Pride Lead



2020 AUSTRALIAN RECOGNITION

HOCKEYROOSLaura Barden, Sophie Taylor, Katie Allen (Assistant Coach)

KOOKABURRAS

MEN'S NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

WOMEN'S NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SQUAD

Kristina Bates

MASTERS OUTDOOR - WORLD CUP WOMEN - DNP

Trish Young (Manager) 035, Trish Young 060s, Karen Russ 065s, Sally Wansbrough 055 Wattles, Janie Davey (Team

MASTERS OUTDOOR WORLD CUP - MEN - DNP

AUSTRALIAN INDOOR U18 TRAINING CAMP

U17 AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS SPORTS TOURING TEAM (DNP)

INTERNATIONAL UMPIRE PANEL

HOCKEY AUSTRALIA LIFE MEMBER

2020 VICTORIAN RECOGNITION

U18 MEN - DNP

U18 WOMEN - DNP

U18 DEVELOPMENT TEAM MEN - DNP

U18 DEVELOPMENT TEAM WOMEN - DNP

U15 BOYS - DNP

U15 GIRLS - DNP *Greta Wansbroug*

U15 DEVELOPMENT TEAM BOYS - DNP

U15 DEVELOPMENT TEAM GIRLS- DNP

INDOOR WOMEN

U18 INDOOR MEN

U15 INDOOR BOYS

U15 INDOOR GIRLS

U13 INDOOR BOYS

Joshua Allen, Dominic Bozzone, Henry Laussen, Coen Sykes, William Watson

U13 INDOOR GIRLS

Indoor Junior Summer Hockey



With barely time for a breath between outdoor grand finals and presentation events, our junior teams hit the indoor courts at MSAC and Dandenong with gusto. The 2019 Indoor season was as large, fast and action packed as the two before it.

For a third season the Club fielded almost 100 players and a total of fourteen teams across the u13, u15, u18 and Open Women's competitions. Nine teams played in weekly competitions from October to December. Mixed Shield fixtures late into school night evenings didn't dampen our youngest players enthusiasm for hockey, nor seeminally their energy levels.

Across Melbourne indoor hockey is gaining in popularity and existing facilities are at full capacity. The new dedicated facility at the State Hockey Centre opening in 2021 will enable Hockey Victoria to enhance its indoor offering and development programs.

It is exciting to see the development of the girls' competition. The u15 girls Shield competition is expanding and strengthening each season. In 2019 an u13 girls Shield competition was introduced. The girls who had developed over two seasons playing mostly boy's teams under Suzanne and Andrew Henderson dominated. They were elevated to the u15 age group and played the u15 Grand Final vs MCC. Congratulations girls.

Such was the enthusiasm amongst our young girls that a second Camberwell u13 girls Shield team coached by James Heath was entered. It too reached the grand final. Most girls (and their parents) were new to the game, improvement was rapid, plenty of fun was had and new friendships forged. It was an inspiring performance and sure to bring the girls back next season.

Whilst all teams displayed the competitive spirit Camberwell is known for, as strongly as ever the indoor program prioritises participation, fun and player development. A special mention must be made of our u18 Mixed Pennant team for winning back-to-back Premierships. So keen were they that the boys organised a team, recruited Phil Kemke as coach and Andrea Stevens as team manager before registrations opened. Congratulations to the boys and Felicia Boehm on winning a close fought grand final vs Doncaster. The u13 Mixed Shield team also played a hard fought grand final vs Southern.

The Club Championships are an annual highlight. Two girl's teams (u13 and u15) and three boys teams (u13, u15 and u18) played in separate tournaments over a full weekend at Monash University. The sound of balls hitting boards, the tight indoor environment, the speed the ball moves and the competitive environment creates a unique intensity. Skills are honed, team spirit

built rapidly and well earned breaks spent socialising with friends from other Clubs. Congratulations to the U13 Boys, coaches Alex Wong & Kasper Wong and Rowena Hill-Murray Team Manager on winning Camberwell's first Championship title.

Congratulations also to those players who represented Victoria at National Championships in January 2020: U13 – Josh Allen, Dominic Bozzone, Jade Henderson, Henry Laussen, Coen Sykes, Bailey Wallace and William Watson, U15 - Matisse Daniel, Lachlan Paice (train-on), Jayde Temby and Alex Wong (Manager) and u18 - Liam Henderson and Angus Hendry (train-On). Finally, congratulations to Liam Henderson who was invited to the U18 Australian Mens Indoor Team training camp.

An indoor program as large as Camberwell's demands the same infrastructure and commitment from volunteers as an outdoor season. Many coaches back-up from the outdoor season and with indoor played during the busiest time of the school year, team managers are pivotal in ensuring a full team list each week. My thanks goes to each and every one of them. In 2019 we introduced u13 and u15 coordinator roles. We are indebted to Shae Allen and Narelle Kay for enthusiastically providing outstanding support to the team managers in these age groups.

James Heath continues to be the driving force behind the program. James's enthusiasm, ability to recruit players and coaches, willingness to coach multiple teams and to provide the leadership necessary to deepen the understanding of the game across the Club ensures the ongoing success of the game at Camberwell. From all the players, administrators and coaches thank you James.



The Summer Masters



Masters Hockey has continued to maintain a strong position and achieve success at Camberwell.

We fielded twelve Summer teams in our internally run Summer Masters PE Capital Cup competition. In addition, we also fielded a 60s+ team for the first time in the Hockey Victoria Term 1 Summer competition – they were premiers. These numbers continue to confirm that we are the largest master's section of any club in Australia.

New players joined the master's unit over the summer season; from the ranks of junior parents, former players and players who have moved into the district.

The 2019 / 2020 Summer MASTERS Competition

Twelve Camberwell teams competed on Monday nights for the "Camberwell Hockey Club, PE Capital ~ Summer Masters Cup" and "The Ron Yeates Shield" at Camberwell – Matlock Park.

PE Capital, (Simon Day) who is a platinum and Premier League shirt sponsor became the overall summer competition sponsor and sponsored an individual team.

This season we continued the concept of having all games at Matlock and playing six 40-minute games in a four hour period, with a quick turn-around between games. It proved to be a huge success with all players at the one venue, enjoying the new clubrooms and with refreshment and BBQ facilities running all night.

We again conducted our competition as an intra-club competition whilst still having the cover and player insurance as registered members of HV. This becomes a major benefit to the club and lessens the cost of running the competition through internal management.

We had 177 players participating: a mixture of our regular men's winter masters, 'summer only' masters, club friends, some women's winter masters and a group of 'future masters'.

There is still some difficulty recruiting a younger group of players in the 35+ group and with the introduction of the new Open-Age concept due to be introduced in Winter 2020 we encouraged 30+ year old players to participate in our summer competition this year. This proved to be highly successful with new group of younger and quite skilful players joining our summer ranks.

The summer season was successful on and off the field. All players were registered with Hockey Victoria for the summer season and a number of these were limited registrations as 'summer only' players.

This summer, we continued our relationship with our sponsors from the 2018/19 season.

Our Summer sponsorship is unique in that each team has an individual sponsor drawn from local and/or member's businesses. Our sponsors contribute towards team shirts and the operation of the overall competition.

With the onset of COVID-19 Pandemic restrictions in mid-March, our summer season was halted with the cancellation of all sport the day before our Grand Final.

Having to cancel our Finals and Presentation Night wasn't the best way to end what was a wonderful season of hockey, friendship and fun.

In not playing our final series on the final Monday night, the Master's Committee elected to declare the highest placed team the Premiers for the season.

Congratulations to the "Minders - Total Care Team" on their success in winning the PE Capital Summer Masters Cup. In addition, they were also awarded the "Ron Yeates Shield" as the best performing team of the season

Highlights of the Summer Masters Season

- 12 CHC Teams 170+ players
 ... playing all 6 games each
 Monday at Camberwell. It was great to see the whole master's section at one location.
- Largest summer comp in Victoria

 of all HV summer comps, not just Masters.
- Closeness of the competition with one round to go 6 teams could have made the finals.
- Closeness of the final four with top 3 teams on equal points separated by goal difference only with the fourth placed team 3 points (1 game) behind.
- Excellent spirit of competition and high standard of games.
- Introduction of under 35YO "future masters" group to the competition.
- Weekly "Summer Dump" email newsletter sent to all players.
- Successful Grand Raffle Raising \$2023.00 to support CHC Junior development.

The Summer season doesn't run by itself and the Master's Committee would like to acknowledge and thank on behalf of all players, the fantastic efforts of the following club members who made the season run so smoothly.

Canteen Staff for Bar and BBQ each week.

Thanks to our Team Captains / Coaches and Managers

Thanks to Club Administrator, Narelle Richardson, for assistance during the season.

A particular feature of our summer competitions has been the use of junior and younger players from the club as umpires to officiate matches. This has been highly successful and has led to further umpire development. Particular thanks to Ollie Chauhan for organising the umpire's roster.

Ralph Kerr



During 2020 the City of Boroondara introduced the Boroondara Sports Awards. The Awards program recognises the important role sports clubs play in enhancing community health and wellbeing, increasing participation in physical activity and fostering social connection. The Camberwell Hockey Club enthusiastically welcomed the initiative and entered into all six categories.

The categories were:

- Innovative Club of the Year CHC won this category
- Inclusive Club of the Year CHC was one of three finalists
- Young Club Person of the Year Eliza Roxbrourgh Judd was one of three finalists
- Collaborative Club of the Year
- Club Person of the Year
- Lifetime Achievement

Following are excerpts from our submissions on the first three of the above categories.

Innovative Club of the Year WINNER

The Club's Summer Masters program was submitted because of its continuing success primarily due to its ability to constantly innovate. This program has been running for 15+ years.

Camberwell Hockey Club had been entering up to 10 Masters men's teams in a winter season in the Hockey Victoria competitions for decades. While the members of each Camberwell team were good friends, we found that the players across teams did not really know each other. Teams did not see each other very often with home and away fixturing.

We decided to change this by holding our own internal summer competition and started with 6 teams in 2004. The various levels of players from A grade to D grade were mixed up to create even strength teams and a better competition as well as players meeting others for the first time in their new team. It was an instant hit and has grown to 12 teams with over 200 men

and women participating aged from 35 to 75.

Some of the many benefits of the program include:

- An opportunity for players to join who have never picked up a hockey stick. Many new players are parents of junior and younger senior aged parents. This adds to the participation within families who stay with the club and contribute on and off the field.
- Mental and physical health benefits cannot be underestimated. At the end of each game players of all ages interact and the conversation will often turn to health issues if a player has reported in unwell. When players learn for example that one of their number is not playing due to say a skin cancer the discussion will centre on personal experiences and often prompt a visit to a medical practitioner. Similarly with mental health issues. The club has been able to identify players who "may not

- be in a good place" and appropriate supportive action taken.
- Each year the Summer Masters run an internal raffle with the proceeds going to junior development within the club. Funds raised have gone to areas such as subsidising junior players who are struggling to pay their fees, umpire clinics and equipment purchases. The amount raised each year is in excess of \$2,000 and put to very good use developing junior hockey players.

The Camberwell Hockey Club is immensely proud of its Summer Masters. Hockey is a game that has no age limit and this competition provides the opportunity for players to play the game they love in a highly supportive environment. It also gives junior umpires the ability to hone their skills and receive feedback in a supportive environment.

By innovating, modifying and trying new things the competition has remained fresh and is standing the test of time with great hockey and enhancing social outcomes.

Young Club Person of the Year **FINALIST**

Eliza Roxborough-Judd (17yo)

Eliza started her hockey journey in New Zealand at the age of six. She started playing hockey at Camberwell Hockey Club in Under 10's back in 2012 and went onto to play each year thereafter until graduating from Under 16's in 2019. Eliza played predominately in Shield (highest ranked) teams in each Age Group and represented both her Zone (Hot Shots) and State in Under 13's and Under 15's. In her final year of Juniors, her coaches

stated that "Eliza plays with great skill and precision, she is a true team player and with quiet maturity encourages and guides her team forward".

In addition to exemplifying the Junior Sections values and approach to the game of Hockey, Eliza also volunteered to assist with coaching of other Junior teams and the running of the grass roots entry Hi2H (hook into hockey) and Summer Sixes Junior programs. Eliza also gained her Hockey Victoria Umpiring Accreditation which qualified her to umpire Junior competitions for the Club as well as in the Zone and State championships.

Volunteering for these roles is critical in the running of CHC's extensive Junior program Eliza received extremely positive feedback regarding her coaching and umpiring internally from players and parents alike and externally from Hockey Victoria and other Clubs.

Eliza is always willing to assist the Club in a wide range of duties and is an extremely positive influence across the Junior Section in particular and the Club in general. Balancing all of these duties in such a positive way makes Eliza a wonderful role model for all Juniors at Camberwell Hockey Club.

Inclusive Club of the Year FINALIST

The Camberwell Hockey Club (CHC) tagline is "A Club for all Ages, Genders and Abilities" and it is a statement that is used to apply to everything the club undertakes. We celebrate the achievements of all players whether they be playing for Australia or playing their very first game of hockey. All initiatives must support our values.

There are three special programs that are run each year – Womens and Girls Round, Mens Health Round and the Pride Cup Round all celebrating inclusiveness, understanding and health.

In 2011 Hockey Victoria partnered with the Victorian Equal Opportunity and Human Rights Commission with the aim to increase awareness of sexual and gender diversity and to promote safe and inclusive environments in hockey. Camberwell Hockey Club was one of four initial pilot clubs chosen to be part of phase one of the project, which expanded to a total of 12 clubs in phase two.

As part of phase one, the Club initiated the What You Say Matters concept promoted through the use of a poster, which was later adopted by Hockey Australia as a communication resource for coaches to help address the way language can

contribute to discrimination and decrease participation. The Club has continually promoted diversity and participation in sport through awareness, education and leadership, as well as inclusive policies.

We also actively participated in Hockey Victoria Fair Go, Sport! Round. In this round all our home teams wore Rainbow socks and teams played for the annual Fair Go, Sport! Cup (Now the Pride Cup). Posters, bunting, balloons and other touches ensured that the message was well published.



DON'T FORGET TO THANK OUR SPONSORS...

One of the most important tasks in any community-based volunteer sporting club, is to thank the sponsors. This should be done by everyone and not just the person making the speech! Some might argue that putting the snags on the BBQ is the most important task, but who paid for the snags? The Sponsors!

In the case of the Camberwell Hockey club, Sponsors are walking among us, donating money toward the common goal of helping to make things work better. They may play hockey themselves, have children that are playing, might be on a committee, coach, manage, mentor or support from afar, but they are highly valued.

Every \$1 from a sponsor is a \$1 that a player does not have to pay in fees. In a typical year, we receive support from Sponsors equal to \$50 for every single CHC player. This is a remarkable contribution, for which every player should be very grateful.

We have been blessed with sponsors willing to contribute thousands toward projects and general funding without really expecting a great return for their business. They want to see the club thrive and for the club to reflect the values of the community. Businesses are very protective of their image and associating with the right sporting club is important. Camberwell aim to deliver on this association with an image and performance on and off the field that a Sponsor can be proud of.

Over the past 12 months we have had 17 sponsors.



One Platinum Sponsor and Premier League Shirt Sponsor: Kooyong Asset Management



Five Platinum Sponsors: 40Forty Finance, A&A Tax, Candor Group, Echo Cartons and Just Hockey











10 Summer Masters Sponsors:

Each has a team in the summer masters competition and most of them have done for many years. This long association generates funds equivalent to pay for the new hockey surface, for example. See the back cover for the names of these generous sponsors

We also thank fashion Clubwear for providing the summer playing shirts at a huge discount

We are striving to find ways to better support our sponsors with Business to Business introductions and efforts to raise their profile within the club. The club would like to recognise their generous contributions.

As we introduce our sponsors to you and identify the people behind the brands please remember to help us with the important task and "Don't forget to thank the Sponsors".



CLUB RECOLLECTION

My dad introduced me and my brothers to Camberwell Hockey Club at a very young age. I started playing when I was 6 and reluctantly hung up the boots at 56.

There was no 'minkey' and the youngest junior team was under 12's so we learned early to cop a hiding from the older players; probably toughened us up. As kids we'd often spend the whole day at Matlock with our mates having fun and watching our dads play. We climbed the huge pine trees and made up hybrid sport games near the giant rusty steel pitch roller at the southern end. Watching the big guys take on the opposition on the old red cinders was a treat and it got pretty willing at times. We wondered if we could be good enough to play like that one day.

After the last match we'd pile into the car and head to the Tower hotel. Pumped up on red lemonade we'd get up to all sorts of mischief exploring the upstairs hallways and rickety fire escapes while the dads held their post mortems over a few sherbets.



Dad's teammates included many of the great players and club characters; people I really looked up to. Keith Thornton, Col Wansbrough, Mike Craig, Al Carnell and Billy Horman were among them.

Juniors

I remember the butterflies and the thrill of preparing for Saturday morning battles. Cleaning boots and tightening studs, laying out the big cotton tangerine CHC shirt with the royal blue pocket and the terry towelling shorts, black for home and white for away. My prized vampire stick marinating in linseed oil in the laundry next to those crappy cane shin pads. Trying to get to sleep Friday night while rehearsing match scenarios and set plays over and over in my mind was always a challenge. We had many coaches along the way but the two I remember most are the great Ronnie Legg and my dad.

Camberwell junior matches were often played at the Wattle Park top oval in the 70's. The early morning pre-match rituals included stomping and cracking the ice-covered pitch as we wheeled out the nets and heaved them into position, a real team effort. Hitting the first ball hurt like hell and you thought your icicle fingers might snap off, great way to wake up.

As juniors we had a fierce rivalry with

Moorabbin HC. Wansy and I would chatter on and off the field about how we should tackle their strengths and exploit weaknesses and certain individual foibles. In some ways it was like the junior version of what would become our classic senior rivalry with Waverley HC. Many of our toughest Moorabbin foes later joined CHC and contributed to our SL1 success against Waverley in the 80's. There was something special about guys like Greg Read, Rob and Steve Dalton, Neil 'Punchy' McLean and Al Hart joining us as young adult teammates. Forging an enduring camaraderie with former foes was pretty cool.

Training

Training at Matlock in the 80's had a certain gladiatorial feel to it. There will be blood. Some of the sibling rivalry on the pitch was legendary. Wayne and Tony Thornton thrashing it out in one-on-one drills, Graeme and Wayne Amey going head-to-head and Rob and Steve Dalton sizing each other up before locking horns. The trash talk was relentless and always entertaining. The competition for team positions was fierce and we all tried our best to knock Duck's block off whenever we got a shot at his net. He loved it. Before our first artificial pitch arrived the post training shower usually involved picking

cinders out of your kneecaps and thighs. I don't miss that.

Under the tutelage of the wily, tough Queenslander Don Argus we worked hard to get truly match fit with backbreaking stick and ball drills and endless leg-burning shuttle runs and hill sprints. In the middle of a drill we'd have to drop our sticks when we heard the Pavlovian catch-cry 'ten to me!' and immediately belt out another series of shuttle runs from the backline to the coach. Anyone caught lounging in the dining cart would cop a barking spray from Argie.

Strategically we learned how to graft out a game, defend strongly, build real pressure on the opposition and take our chances when the game eventually broke. Thursday night sweaty team meetings huddled in the tiny selectors' room and moving magnets around the whiteboard was never dull. Everyone got to share their own viewpoints on how we should approach the next battle to win. When Darce, Pavnev or Kiwi spoke mv antenna alwavs sharpened that little bit more. I learned a lot about my teammates and perspectives in those meetings. Sage advice from the coach 'you can't make a silk purse out of a sow's ear', 'leave that backstick rubbish at home' and 'try not to fly over the target on Friday night' may have also helped.

The camaraderie off the field was outstanding and underpinned the strong supportive vibe of the club atmosphere, still palpable today. This doesn't happen overnight and is testament to the hard work behind the scenes by countless club folk, young and old. The post-training cook-out hosted by team manager and barbie king, Peter Collins, has also been part of the club vibe for decades. PC will

be missed but that spirit will live on at Matlock.

Match Day

At eighteen I remember the devastation of losing our first grand final in 1982 and the 'character building' losses to Waverley in 1983 - bitter pills. I remember some of the very funny on-field repartee (some things just can't be repeated) and a couple of near all-in brawls when things overheated. A positive enquiry from Mints to Irvine during a match against Yarra after the Olympics loss 'where's your medal Jimmy?' ouch - he wasn't happy.

Most of all, I remember the sheer jubilation and wild scenes after beating the allstar Waverley team in 1984. We were the underdogs and not expected to win against the champion team in their prime. With an ex-national coach, three gun Australian players (Colin Batch, Treva King and Nigel Patmore) and the rest of the team consisting mostly of the Victorian senior state team, they were formidable. All of that meant nothing to us. We had the better coach who had instilled absolute belief in all of us that we had what it took to knock 'em over. We stuck to the plan and frustrated their stars and when the game broke, as we'd learned it always would, we seized our opportunities and made them pay. A stunning 3-2 victory in front of the greatest club supporters you could hope for - it was awesome. The first club premiership since 1959, the long drought finally broken. A sensational feeling.

That victory lead to the best team celebrations I've ever had; some of it I even remember. Weeks of solid partying capped off a brilliant season. Grant 'Daffy' Broadbent and I were pretty shabby in our

long overcoats and sunglasses waiting for opening time on the doorstep of the Palace Hotel. It became our team home for quite a while. I vaguely recall getting up in the middle of the fourth night of festivities to go to the pub urinal only to discover the next morning all my shoes were swimming. I'd gone in my bedroom wardrobe, dazed and confused, mum was not impressed.

The team went on to win many more premierships in that golden era, which is well documented, but that first one in '84 is still the sweetest for mine.

Although there were plenty of highs that decade, the definite low point for me was getting my jaw shattered by a belting Reado undercut during a pre-match warm up drill. Argie's theory that Greg 'couldn't hit the skin off a rice pudding' was challenged on that painful day. Just another chapter now in my longstanding relationship with the surgeon's hammer, drill and titanium bolts. Ironically, with no cartilage left and both ankles fused, I have two hockey sticks for legs.

Looking back

Decades on, having played in so many teams at various levels, I feel blessed to have been part of such a great club. I've been very lucky to have so many great coaches along the way. People who taught me so much more than how to play hockey. Ron Legg, Mike Craig and Don Argus stand out in my mind, and of course my dad.

For many years the club has been like a second home to me and my brothers. A place to connect and feel the warmth of your extended sporting family. A club that is genuinely committed to embracing everyone and providing opportunity for personal development in caring team environments. The biggest club masters competition in the country is a pretty fair representation of what the club means to people; we don't want to leave. So many great characters, some now almost as old as the rickety, creaking weatherboard pavilion that once stood on the west side of the old cinders pitch. It's been a brilliant journey so far. The best hockey club in the country, probably one of the best in the world. Long live CHC, you will always have a special place in my heart.



David Cashmere

Camberwell Hockey Club Inc. Board Members 2018-2019



SIMON WINTER - PRESIDENT

Simon is an Elected Board Member and has been President since 2018. Simon is responsible for club liaison with Hockey Victoria, local council, Koonung Secondary College and State and Federal politicians.

Simon has been a member of the Camberwell Hockey Club for 22 years as a player, coach, team manager, umpire and a men's master's sub committee member.

Simon is a director of his own Owners Corporation Management business and has served on the committees of several other local community sporting clubs.



STEVE PRIOR

Steve is a Section Board Member, this is his first year as Chair of the Men's Section. He was previously Chair of the Junior Section. In addition to his Chair role Steve is a major contributor to the Communications Working Group. His expertise in IT and the use of social media has been of immense value to the Club. Steve has been involved in the Camberwell Hockey Club for over 16 years as a parent, manager, committee and Board member. Steve has run his own IT business for the past 25 years; developing and operating software for retail industry customers all over the globe.



PIP MANN

Pip is an Elected Board Member and has responsibility for the Retention of Women Strategy.

She is an experienced Legal & Governance Counsel and has a passion for hockey, always encouraging everyone to get involved at the Club in whatever capacity they can.

Pip has been a player and member at the Club since 2002. She has contributed to the Club through sitting on the women's committee since 2014, joining the women & girls sub group in 2018, as well as coaching junior and senior teams.



STEVE I AUSSEN

Steve is a Section Board Member and in his second year as Chair of the Junior Section. Steve also participates in the Communications Working Group, the Women and Girls Advisory Group and achieved his MHFA certificate in 2020. Steve has a background in Sports Science and Business Administration and is keen to further enhance the player development and elite pathway programs.

Steve has been involved with the Club for 13 years as a parent, Team Manager, Age Group Coordinator and Master's participant.

Steve has broad management experience across Sport, FMCG, Credit Information, Construction and until recently had been CEO of Kingfield Galvanizing for ten years.



SARA CONYERS

Sara is section Board Member in her 2nd year leading the Women's section, additionally she responsible for the Communications portfolio. Sara first came to Camberwell in 2002 as a player and has contributed to the club through the women's committee since 2014, coaching, assisting with coordinating the Hin2H program, and coordinating the social and fundraising events...

Sara's background is in marketing and communications and currently works in the world of philanthropy as a Development Manager at The University of Melbourne.



JOHN UNKLES - CLUB SECRETARY

John is an Appointed Member of the Board and is Club Secretary. He is also responsible for the Sponsorship portfolio.

Although having never played hockey he has been involved in some capacity at the club for over 30 years following his four son's hockey journey. His first club role was managing Minkey Hockey now Hookin2Hockey. He has since served on both the Junior and Men's Committees. Now retired John's working life was spent managing professional institutes and trade associations. His time is now divided between family including grandchildren, the hockey club, his roles with Anglicare Victoria and as a tour guide at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.



STUART WILL - TREASURER

Stuart is an Elected Board Member and has been Club Treasurer since 2013. Stuart has developed consistent financial practices across all sections and oversees the funding needs for the new club.

Stuart has been involved in the Camberwell Hockey Club for over 9 years as a parent, team manager, player and Junior Section committee member.

Stuart is currently CFO at Optal Limited, a global payments organisation and is a proud supporter of The Mirabel Foundation.



ELLEN WILLIAMSON

Ellen is an Appointed Board Member and has responsibility for Club Governance matters. She has a background of 30 years legal experience and is currently with PwC Legal.

Ellen has been involved with the Club for over 15 years, as a parent starting with Minkey (Hook-in-2-Hockey), team manager, very occasional player and spectator. She also sits on the Board of Hockey Victoria.

STRATEGIC PLAN 2017 - 2021 2020 REVIEW

The Camberwell Hockey Club remains committed to delivering the six pillars within our Strategic Plan in support of the vision as "A Community Club for all ages, genders and abilities".

As we enter the last year of this plan, we will review all aspects to ensure the next version reflects the evolving values of the community at large, as well as the desires and aspirations of the hockey club membership.

Running strongly through the membership of the club and guiding the Board's review of our strategic plan is a strength of character that has created a tone expressing the underlying desire to "achieve and embrace". Members want to be proud of the club's past, present and future. The actions of the past have achieved this desire, the foresight and actions of the present will enable ongoing pride into the future.

The Board will ensure that this tone is maintained and supported by the plan and importantly reflected in our actions in delivering resources, education and outcomes.

The Strategic Plan is readily available on our website. This document is not owned solely by the Board, it is shared by all. The Board's responsibility is to review and deliver on its intent, however, all members can contribute to shaping direction and purpose.

It has been a challenging year in which to continue our programs, however, as a community we have still maintained the club structure and activities wherever possible, albeit not on or around the field of play. It is intended that each year we report on our activities to meet Our Strategic Pillars and Goals.

PLAYER SUPPORT AND ENGAGEMENT

GOAL: Provide the best environment for our players

2020 provided little opportunity to continue the work on developing pathways for players to reach their potential. Programs are in place and when possible, will resume.

The focus of online engagement resulted in the establishment of a Mental Health First Aid group to oversee strategies designed to reach out to and support members, their families and those involved with the club deal with the complexities of mental health. Regular education and Webinars on Mental Health bought in members in their hundreds to lean about advice and strategies to cope during a stressful time for many.

These actions did support players and create an environment that the club was still there and reaching out.

HOCKEY ENGAGEMENT

GOAL: Lead, promote and grow hockey in Victoria

The online activities were shared and appreciated well beyond the boundaries of the club. The Mental Health First Aid Webinars attracted notes of thanks from many players and families from other clubs grateful for the thoughtful communications.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

GOAL: Continued financial strength and independence

The historical financial strength enjoyed by the club underpinned our ability, not just to survive 2020, but to grow areas of the club's activities as we embraced our membership and families beyond.

The Board consulted regularly, with guidance from our Treasurer, to ensure our position remained solid and savings were being made where possible.

The club's major expense is the pitch replacement and due 2021. Given the lack of games played, it was considered that the existing pitch will now serve until 2022. We put aside a significant sum each year to allow for pitch replacement and do have the resources to deliver the new pitch in 2022 despite the financial impact of 2020.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

GOAL: Promote the value of the Camberwell Hockey Club to the Boroondara Community

The Club transferred the focus of our engagement from the Matlock Centre, as a meeting place, to our on-line presence in 2020. The previous year's good work establishing online communications enabled us to dramatically scale up activities in 2020 giving access to the broader local community and beyond.

We will return to the Matlock Centre in due course, but the isolation has enabled us to grow our digital communications due to the creativity, technical capability and dedication of the Communications group.

OUR PEOPLE

GOAL: Strengthen our culture across players, supporters and volunteers

It is easy to self-congratulate in good times, but when the situation turns, as it did, the true commitment of the club membership is called on.

The response has been something to behold and a source of genuine pride. The brief training interlude allowed in May and June required enormous effort in administration and logistics to submit COVID-19 training protocol documents to authorities, make ground arrangements and co ordinate up to 600 players training sessions under strict rules. A remarkable performance by so many in such quick time where other sporting clubs could not respond. The training was valued and appreciated by all who participated.

FACILITIES AND INFRASTRUCTURE

GOAL: Provide the best possible training, playing and social facilities

2020 did not stop this activity, but it was certainly scaled back. Despite the isolation protocols in place, the new children's play / warm up was completed and served well during the training as a "holding pen" under the protocols. Far more enjoyment is ahead for this area.

Additional projects are underway to further enhance the experience for players and spectators in 2021.

Junior Section Report - 2020



We quickly turned our focus to the traditional post-Winter Season activities in October. The Indoor program is reported on elsewhere in detail and continues to grow in stature with almost half of the Junior Winter players committing to Indoor. Summer Sixes was once again well supported with 101 participants. Great thanks to James Launder and Lachie Avil for their organisation of the program. Steve Prior and Alex Wong continued to manage the S2H and Hi2H programs with approximately 60 excited young hockey players enjoying their first or second term of hockey.

We started the calendar year expecting to field 18 teams again with the first Winter Season of gender specific teams across all age groups. That would facilitate 5 x u16 teams (3 Boys / 2 Girls), 5 x u14 (3 /2), 4 x u12 (3 / 1) and 4 x u10 (2 / 2). Training numbers were positive in March with our total playing numbers likely to be slightly down again on 2019, which is a function of both competition from other sports and declining numbers in the Hi2H program.

As the unfamiliar and unexpected C-19 pandemic escalated, most girls and boys just wanted to be active and train, which



we initially facilitated. However, it became increasingly obvious that the program would need to cease, and we did the best we could to support our Junior members and their families.

The approach to the next phase was simply outstanding and we became the role model for all sports in Boroondara and across the hockey community. The community attitude of all involved was simply great to be part of with all Sections working extremely well together. All aspects of training were outstanding and a huge thank you to all involved.

The pandemic did have an impact with 17 teams registered and an anticipated drop in playing numbers of approximately 10% (n \approx 25) versus 2019. Girls represented 38% of the total, which was down from 41% in 2019 and something we need to continue to work at.

Andrew Henderson once again did an enormous job recruiting two coaches for each of the teams registered and providing them with training plans and drills to ensure we maximized the time available on the pitch under the C-19 protocols. With the size of our program across all age groups, our approach to selection is critical in ensuring each girl and boy is ultimately placed in a team that ensures their continued hockey development and enjoyment of the game. Our thanks once again to Andrew, David Wansbrough and all of the coaches for their commitment to an extremely thorough task.

YASMIN WILSON



Tragically we lost one of our own when Yasmin Wilson took her own life in November. Yasmin had followed her older brother Jacob to CHC through the Hi2H program and

progressed through the Junior teams with her first year in u16's in 2019. Yasmin also played in the Women's section in 2019 and was a member of the Metro B premiership team. In addition to that, Yasmin had also been giving back to the Hi2H program as a coach. All who came in contact with Yasmin have commented on her beautiful and kind personality The CHC community came together to support Yasmin's parents, Simone and Raj in a wonderful celebration of her short life and committed to ensuring there would be a legacy. Part of that is the commitment to the MHFA program described elsewhere in this report which was the result of psychologist Michael Carr-Gregg providing support to the CHC community through his friendship

The group most impacted upon by the cancellation of the Winter Season was of course our Top Age U16's who did not get to play their final Season of Juniors. Ten girls and fourteen boys graduate from the Junior program this year and 7 players received the CHC Juniors medal for having participated in all six years of competition.

Steve Laussen

Junior Chair



Women's Section Report - 2020

This year has definitely not been what anyone had planned for. Our committee started off the year strong with clear priorities outlined for the year ahead; Enhance connection within our section, increase player numbers, continue to develop and implement master's strategy and continue to build relationships/pathways between sections. As it turned out we would need to focus on all these areas, but just with slightly different activities associated to them.

Thank-you to Pauline Webb, Suz Cannell, Sally Wansbrough, Sophie Sheahan, Pip Mann, Emmy Nottle, Greta Brooks, Sarah Kondogiannis, Narelle Richardson and John Faulks for working together to ensure that our section ran as smoothly as possible this year even with all the challenges that have been thrown our way. We saw a 90% return rate to playing this year, with increases in the number attending training and fitness sessions. We have had great success with the introduction of training for our master's

players and saw continued success with our transition program. Thank you to all who made this happen. I am constantly told how lucky we are to have such a strong, resourceful and productive group working together for our section and it could not be more true right now.

I would like to thank Sally Wansbrough and Narelle Richardson who have both decided to step down from committee this year. Both have been an integral part of our committee and section, we really would not be where we are without them. Not only have you both contributed to countless projects, initiatives and administration but you have both been fantastic mentors to not only me but many others in our section. Thank you for all the generous hours that you have volunteered.

This season has forced us to look outside the box and try new and different things as a section. We have adapted to the constant changes and continued to be passionate about hockey and our club whilst also supporting community. Through changing training formats, fitness sessions online, various zoom sessions, or even just reaching out to one another via a WhatsApp group you have all ensured that we as a section will make it through to next season more connected and supported than we have ever been before. Thank you.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all our coaches. David Wansbrough, Geoff Perriman, Emma Forward, James Heath, Pip Mann, Matt Porritt, Alex Wong, Ollie Bell, Sam Balson, Ruby Webb and Paul Dixon. The constant changing conditions, multiple training nights, and additional organisational requirements where done by you all with ease and you all went above and beyond to ensure that our players, parents and support networks where all informed during what could have been a very difficult transition.

Sara Conyers

Women's Chair

Men's Section Report - 2020

In a most unusual year, I'm delighted to open our section report in a somewhat usual fashion and report a club premiership.

Our Men's Masters 60+ Team entered the Hockey Victoria Term 1 summer competition this year for the first time. Played across the metropolitan area on Wednesday evenings at venues with dual surfaces to enhance the social offering, we completed 8 of the 9 scheduled rounds to sit on top of the ladder with 7 wins and 1 loss, a game ahead of our nearest rival, Southern, and with a 42 for and 10 against score-line, also giving us an 8 goal advantage over second place.

After the lengthy shutdown and with little hope of playing the remaining round, Hockey Victoria declared Camberwell the 2020 Premiers in our only contested winter competition this year.

Congratulations to all the players involved with a special shoutout to Simon Winter, who managed twenty two goals over the eight rounds, being held scoreless only once. In the early part of the year our Monday evening Summer Masters Cup was a huge success.

I would like to thank Jim Forsyth, Ralph Kerr and the entire Men's Masters for their superb and tireless work on this program which originated some twenty years ago. You can read more about this program on Page 11 of this report.

Our program, the largest in Victorian summer hockey, was also recognised externally this year by Boroondara Council, with the club winning its inaugural Sports Award for Innovative Club of the Year.

With no competition possible for our other teams I would like to thank the tenacity, passion and adaptability of all our players, coaches, administrators and families. When we were able to operate training the sessions were generally fully subscribed and everyone accommodated the COVID protocols without complaint or issue. Thank you and well done.

I would like to extend my gratitude and thanks to the Men's Committee: Nick Ryan, Charlie Faulks, Ralph Kerr, Richard Harris, Jim Forsyth, Oliver Chauhan, Phil Martin, Tim Oldham, Ian Launder, Hamish Prior and Duncan Scorer who continue to provide exceptional management and support, and in particular to Nick Ryan who has taken on the role of secretary; and to Duncan Scorer a lifelong Weller who has performed outstanding work with our Metro and lower grade Pennant groups and is now relocating to Queensland. Thanks Duncan and we wish you all the best in your new role.

Finally I would like to thank my Womens and Junior section counterparts Sara Conyers and Steve Laussen for their help, advice and cooperation in developing and executing our programs; and Club President Simon Winter and the other members of the board for their support and dedication to our club.

Steve Prior

Men's Chair

COMMUNICATIONS IN THE TIME OF COVID

While this year has been anything but normal, it has given the Communications team an opportunity to try new projects and come together as a community to support each other in ways that we hadn't tried before. Of course, it goes without saying that none of this would have been possible without the amazing dedication and work by all involved in the communication team. Britt Simmons, Issy Harris, Ruby Webb, Hamish Prior, Shae Allen-Combe, Steve Prior, John Unkles and Simon Winter your work, creativity and dedication to our projects and community have been outstanding, thank you.

In times like these, our communication platforms provided a much-needed connection, relief, and some sense of normalcy to our lives. Through these areas we wanted to achieve:

- Continued connection with all age groups
- Provide variety in fitness opportunities
- Provide variety in conversation
- Create opportunities to Increase awareness and understanding across a broad range of topics
- Increase club profiles
- Opportunities to check in and support our members mental health

We achieved this through the following:

Podcasts:

In early April of 2020 we launched a weekly podcast, focused on sport, hockey and the members of our community. The main aim is to maintain the connectedness of Wellers during the first COVID-19 lockdown. We believe that the podcasts are an opportunity to share many amazing

stories from within the CHC community to a wider audience. These stories assist in keeping alive the CHC values of support, selflessness, respect, inclusion and relentlessness during 2020.

Through the rotating host duties and participation from guests from different sections of the Club, we've been able to highlight the various areas of hockey from playing and coaching at both club level and for Australia to umpiring and officiating as well as administration and health, to provide listeners with a holistic view of the club and its people. By engaging in the audio space, we've also managed to offer Wellers another way to learn about the rich club history, sharing stories of the past with all generations of listeners.

The podcast has been very well received with positive comments coming from both within and outside of the CHC community; with the hour or so episodes being particularly popular during walks in allotted outdoor time! Special thanks must go to our hosts and guests so far, who have been particularly generous with their time; always eager to give back to our club that we all love. And a special thanks to Steve Prior, who is our tech genius behind the operation. Whilst he gains the first insights of the episodes as he edits, it is truly a mammoth task to undertake every Sunday.

Website:

Our website continues to be our centre for all thing's communication both internally and externally. While traffic across the board is down this year as we would expect without playing any hockey, we're still seeing just over 10% of our traffic coming from overseas, mostly from USA (primarily big field hockey states), Germany and the UK. It is through the introduction of the news articles that includes things like COVID-19 updates, Club Profiles or Club stories we have been able to create better connections between our other communication streams (newsletter and social media particularly).

While lower traffic numbers are expected throughout a year like this it is exciting to see our Google search clicks are up just over 50% year on year, and our impressions up 260%, meaning we're performing much better in search results than we previously were. This reflects some solid work expanding our platform online through initiatives such as the podcast and other written content.

Social Media:

Following on from such a successful 2019 for social media, it was hard to think that we would have to increase our engagement and creativity on the year before. But rise to the challenge the team did.

Realising that social media was going to close the gap between our members and community, during the pandemic, the team came together to develop and implement several campaigns across the year to increase our reach, engagement and impressions. These include:

FLASHBACK FRIDAYS – an opportunity for us to celebrate the success of the past, look back at the good times but also increase the awareness and acknowledge of all the fantastic volunteers that we have around our club through profile posts.

ISO CHALLENGES – this was introduced to create a bit of fun and laughter in our first lockdown. We saw members attempting bucket shots, target practice, and goal post celebrations while encouraging other members to the challenge.

WELLBEING WEDNESDAY – introduced after such a fantastic reception of the Michael Carr-Gregg webinar. Having a dedicated day allows us to continue to support and increase awareness around mental health and wellbeing for our members and community.

ONLINE FITNESS SESSIONS – we have been so lucky at Camberwell to be able to continue our fitness programs even when in lockdown as we moved our pilates and strength and conditioning sessions online. A huge thank you to James McGeoch and Noeleen O'Shea and James Heath from Pilates for Sports – keeping us all fit and active during this challenging time has been invaluable.

STRAVA CHALLENGE - The CHC X Strava challenge was all about getting our community involved with each other and support our members to stay fit and healthy seeing as though there was no hockey season this year. This particular challenge ran over a 5-week period from August

16th till September 14th; however, results were provided weekly to our Instagram page. The challenge required anyone to sign up to Strava (an app) and join the Camberwell page, from there participants were able to record every run, walk or bike ride they completed during the week and at the end of each week we displayed the top 10 people from both walking/ running and bike riding. We categorised the results into 'most kms running,' 'most kms bike riding' and 'most kms overall'. The challenge was a great way to motivate people to stay active and we had over 100 people sign up to the page. It was great to see different people in the top 10 each week and to see a consistent amount of exercise from all members throughout the challenge.

Newsletter:

Our weekly Whole of Club newsletter continues to be a great source of information for our members this year, and due to the pandemic has been one of our main sources of communication to all our members. Not only was it used to keep members up to date with happenings around the club, representative honours and pre-season information at the beginning of the year, it was also used

to educate and inform members of all things COVID-19 related as we moved into lockdown. This included providing training drills for members to do at home, highlighting our weekly podcast and fitness sessions, and, in conjunction with the Mental Health First Aid Group, provided weekly articles focussed on mental health. In the first lockdown we also highlighted some of our member's businesses, through our free classified ad section. The WOC newsletter is sent out to over 1450 members with an open rate ranging from 35%-49% weekly. It continues to be our main communication channel to members for club wide announcements.

Thank you to everyone involved in these projects and platform, looking forward to continuing these initiatives in 2021.

Sara Conyers
Communications Lead







FACILITIES AND FINANCE

2020 FACILITIES REPORT

This year was done very differently due to COVID-19. No winter games were played, the summer master's competition was cut one week short and training was done following the COVID protocols when allowed. Koonung was not used at all this year. The five weeks we were allowed to train saw new protocols put in place, limited access to indoor facilities and a lot of cleaning done to ensure training could go ahead.

The facilities were hired out in Term 1. Canterbury Neighbourhood Centre utilised The Matlock Centre in Term 1, holding classes four days a week, the largest being The Bridge Club run every Wednesday afternoon for 4.5 hours for their 80+ members. Hire was suspended for the remainder of the year. Local schools also hired the ground in Term 1 and part of Term 2 before shutdown.

Pauline Webb took over running the canteen in 2020 however shutdown put her plans on hold, and we look forward to what lies ahead for 2021.

At the end of 2019 we were granted new lease hours by the Boroondara Council which came into effect the beginning of 2020. These provided extended training hours in the summer months and increased playing time on a Sunday in winter.

With very little to report, now is a good time to look back on all the upgrades the Club has undertaken to our facilities over the past four years:

2017:

Extension of dugouts – the dugouts were extended to include a new maintenance shed to be housed, due to the demolition of the old clubrooms. Power was also installed, allowing for lights to dugouts, as well as power to

- the new maintenance area. The fence to the northern side of the dugouts was redone to fit the new extension.
- Southern End a container was installed at the southern end of the ground to be used for storage during the building of The Matlock Centre. This has now become a permanent fixture with new shelving installed in 2019. The emergency services driveway that runs from Moresby Street to the pitch was re-laid in pavers by the Council in 2019.
- Lighting new 350 lux lights were erected around the ground using the existing poles and underground cabling infrastructure. These lights provide better coverage, and more importantly less spillage to the neighbours, than the old lights.

2018

- Technical bench a wooden Tech Bench was erected on the eastern side of the ground, at the halfway line. This was required by Hockey Victoria as part of requirements for Premier League games. This Tech Bench includes both power and cabling for internet connection.
- New Gym and Recovery Room when designing the new clubrooms, the Club put in a request for a gym and recovery area. Understandably this was above and beyond the normal council offerings for a sporting facility, so we set out to raise money to cover this portion of the build, which we did so successfully. The result is a wonderful gym area continually being stocked with gym equipment for all our teams to use, a dedicated physio room used extensively by our Premier League physios at training and on game day, and a recovery room with spa and ice bath available for use by all our members.



2019

- Fencing Low perimeter fencing was installed along the eastern side and southern end of the pitch. New entry gates were installed along the eastern side of the pitch as well as double gates both at the northern end, and southern end.
- Taps taps were installed near the southern end container as well as next to the dugouts.
- Furniture high tables, bean bags, storage cupboards in changerooms, new doors to cover the kitchen shelving, and wooden rubbish bins were purchased and installed.
- Signage permanent signage was erected around the facility including directional, instructional, and naming signage. Honour Boards were erected in the social space upstairs.

2020

- New Play Area the area behind the goals at the northern end looked like a wasteland after the demountables were removed when we moved into our new clubrooms. John Unkles and Michael Barden had a great idea to use the space as a play area when games are in progress, or a warmup area for training. A Federal Government Grant was received which paid for some of the area. This was completed in February 2020 and has been well used earlier in the year by our teams training, ensuring we followed COVID-19 protocols. A State Government Grant saw the whole area covered by shade cloth as well. The new area also included decking along the northern end of the ground and installation of new seating to this area, allowing for what will no doubt become a great viewing area on game
- Fencing early 2020 the northern end high fence behind the goals was replaced, and new rubber matting replaced the existing matting along this fence.
- Signage further permanent signage was put in place, including signage around the new play area, advertising of our new lease hours, and updates to the Honour Boards. The exciting project that was installed was the

- photo wall which is located in the social space along the wall outside the toilet facilities upstairs. This wall has a great selection of photos from 1932 2019.
- Noticeboard a noticeboard was erected on the fence facing Matlock Street. This noticeboard will be shared with Canterbury Neighbourhood Centre, to keep our members and neighbours up to date with events happening around the club.
- Furniture bar stools were purchased early 2020 to compliment the high tables on the upstairs deck, and were well used by our Masters players during their summer competition.
- Landscaping the completion of the new play area highlighted the need for landscaping improvements. These improvements have been undertaken this year, including planting of new trees and shrubs around the facilities.

Looking forward to once again being able to use our wonderful facility in 2021.

Narelle Richardson

Club Administrator

2020 FINANCE REPORT

The prudent financial measures we have taken in the past have stood us in good stead over the past 12 months. impact of COVID-19 has seen the Club's Income decline by in excess of 70% in 2020, with little or no income in the past 9 months. For many clubs this would have resulted in a very uncomfortable financial predicament. We are fortunate that this is not the case for our club. The lack of a winter season has seen a corresponding reduction in variable expenditure related to having teams on the field however as a club we still incur a range of fixed costs and these have been paid for utilising cash reserves in the absence of any income.

The Club's underlying Income in 2020 was significantly impacted by COVID-19 and a complete absence of a Winter Hockey Season. We managed to generate some Income from Summer Activities which totalled \$130,559. Any comparisons to 2019 are somewhat meaningless. The figure of \$130,559 excludes capital income recognized in 2020 of \$55,457. We have been fortunate to be supported by the majority of our sponsors and the Federal

Government via its Cash Flow Boost and Job Keeper Incentive Schemes.

A significant portion of our Cash Operating Expenditure is linked to putting teams on the field. In 2020 our Cash Operating Expenditure was \$162,760, a decrease of \$167,743 or 51% and of this decrease, \$147,074 is directly attributable to their being no Winter Season. We also record non cash expenditure in the form of Depreciation in our accounts and this was \$164,768 in 2020. This represent a 53% increase year on year and is a result of significant capital expenditure works in recent years. It should also be noted that the Matlock playing surface is now fully depreciated.

The Club generates non operating Income through our Term Deposit with our long term supporter in Bendigo Bank. In the current low interest rate environment this delivered a modest \$9,808 of interest income in 2020, a 39% reduction year on year.

Like any business over the past 12 months there has been a strong focus on Cash preservation and I am pleased to report that the club had \$761,955 Cash on Hand at year end. This represents a decrease of \$36,600 in the past 12 months. It should be noted that of the existing cash balance, \$600,000 is set aside for the ground resurfacing. When the ground was last resurfaced in 2012 the club spent \$450,000. At this stage the Board anticipates that the ground resurfacing will take place in 2022.

With the ongoing uncertain economic climate, the Board has a desire to maintain a cash surplus position and as a club, we are very fortunate to be able to achieve this. We will need to work harder than ever in 2021 to maintain this position of financial strength and ensure that Camberwell Hockey Club remains in control of its own destiny for many years to come. That relies on every one of you playing your small part through volunteering, supporting social events and giving back to the club in whatever way you can.

Stuart Will

Treasurer

COLIN WANSBROUGH

AWARDED HOCKEY AUSTRALIA LIFE MEMBERSHIP



In 2020 our very own Colin Wansbrough was awarded Life Membership of Hockey Australia.

Announcing the award Hockey Australia President Melanie Woosnam said "Life Membership is one of, if not the highest of field honour at Hockey Australia and on behalf of everyone in the hockey community I thank and congratulate (him) on being added to this special and illustrious list."

Colin enjoyed playing success with both Camberwell and Victoria, before going on to make great contributions to the administration of hockey.

Col is a selfless, humble and diligent person in performing his duties, and it was always about the game and the players and never about himself or what he could get out of it.

Camberwell HC is a better place through Colin's love for hockey, and we still regularly see him down at Matlock cheering on his grandchildren.



And from the man himself

"The fact that hockey is a team sport makes a huge difference because you share things with others. You share the highs and the lows, you get people to work alongside you, and because it is played at all levels and ages and is so inclusive, that it is a big family and I guess that's the bonding spirit that gives you the reward. There are so many people you can relate to. Essentially it's an amateur sport so people sacrifice their time and effort to do it and I think that makes a difference." Colin Wansbrough

Below is just a very short summary of some of Col's achievements:

- 71 year involvement with Camberwell Hockey Club
- Played at Camberwell all his life
- Juniors 1949-51 –began with Rick Purser—coached by Mike Craig
- Seniors 1952 with Charlie Morley Keith Thornton
- A grade 1952-1965 Premiers '56 '58 '59
- Vic League Best and Fairest 1958
- Played Camberwell lower grades until 1990 aged 54
- Club selector 1960-1980
- Member of the Camberwell Board 1960
- President 1990-1995
- Major roles in clubhouse facility in 1995; artificial pitch in 1985
- Life Member 1989



Victorian Hockey involvement

- 1957-1963 Treasurer
- 1975-1976 Vice President
- 1977-1979 President of Hockey Victoria
- Helped established veterans hockey in Victoria—around 1977
- State junior selector 1965-1980
- Biggest achievements with metro grading and country expansion and Royal Park artificial pitch
- Life member 2000

Hockey Australia involvement

- 1977-1983 Hockey Victoria delegate to Hockey Australia
- 1984-1993 Treasurer of Hockey Australia

International

FIH-served as technical officer judge and tournament director 1989-1997 all around the world



Jenny, David, Tim, Colin and Sally Wansbrough. Colin, Sally and David are all CHC Life Members

Camberwell Hockey Club 27 89th Annual Report 2019-2020

PETER COLLINS

Passing of a Legend



2nd July 1951 to 26th July 2020

Life Member since 1977

Peter Collins, or PC as he was always called, was a member of our club for 44 years. During that time PC did just about everything one could at a sporting club.

- past Club Secretary
- an enthusiastic player
- past captain of lower grade teams
- team manager for various teams over the years
- grounds manager
- grounds bookings
- He ran our canteen, buying the stock week after week for years.
- He found good people to staff the canteen the club grew.
- He was also the general handyman around the club, repairing and organising equipment, and organising contractors.
- He became justifiably famous in our club, and others, for running the PC BBQ over many years. On Thursday training nights at our club; beside the Yarra and other places during pre season trainings and game days. It is true that other clubs envied us with our PC.
- He could murder a sausage better than anyone, but he would also do bacon & eggs, burgers, steaks and shaslicks to order.

Outside of his love of his family, CHC was quite central to Peter's life and he spent countless hours, year round, at Matlock Park doing all of the things he regarded as being necessary for the Club's well being. He only took holidays when hockey was not fixtured.

In the early years of CHC there were only 5 senior mens teams and some junior teams and in those times he knew everyone and was a central figure to all of them - he was their PC. As the club grew larger, eventually becoming the biggest club in Victoria and most likely Australia, he struggled with the loss of the intimacy that he had enjoyed in those early days. Certainly he was proud of CHC and its growth and its successes but I suspect he would have secretly preferred it to have remained a bit "like the old days".

He loved "his" players with a passion, celebrating the wins and plumbing the depths of misery when they lost.

Wins were always well deserved and well celebrated by Pete. After any particularly good win, players could be found enjoying the post match team spa with slabs of beer that mysteriously appeared into the Spa & Gym. You could be absolutely it came via PC and that, according to PC, it was deserved!

Losses were always the fault of the umpire - always. When he thought they did a less than perfect job - which was nearly always according to Pete, he was known to rip up the umpire payment cheques in front of

said offending umpires, castigating them in no uncertain terms about their technical failures, lack of judgement, appalling eyesight etc etc etc).

As he got older and as his diabetes limited the way he wanted to live his life, he could be quite irascible with some of us. He could be quite abrupt with people if he thought it was needed. However, if you understood the why, then it was not personal. You had to measure up to his ideal as a "Weller" or you were grumped at.

By any measure - be it trust, loyalty, selfless work, volunteering and many many others, PC epitomised what it means to be a WELLER.

For many, now that PC is gone from us, with whom shall we argue or chat or grumble or lunch or drink red wine or do any of a multitude of small tasks in the inimitable PC way?

No one comes to mind and we are the worse for it.

His value to us was immense. He will be tremendously missed but never forgotten.

Terry Ryan

Life Member and Past President



Four CHC Life members Peter Collins, Bill Horman, Mike Craig and Ron Yeates - the year 2000

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PLATINUM SPONSORS









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